



**COAST GUARD
MARINE SAFETY OFFICE
JACKSONVILLE**



7820 Arlington Expressway Suite 400
Jacksonville, FL 32211-7445
Phone: (904) 232-2640
Fax: (904) 232-1014

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 36-02

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PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE RECALL

In August of 2002, SOS Incorporated, manufacturer of **SOSPENDERS** brand life jackets alerted the United States Coast Guard, distributors and the public that they were recalling approximately 7,200 automatic inflatable personal flotation devices (PFDs). The purpose of this recall was to investigate a safety defect involving the Hammar model MA1 Manual/Automatic inflators.

SOS Inc. manufactures *vest type* PFDs equipped with two different types of automatic inflators. They emphasized that **only PFDs using the Hammar model MA1 Manual/Automatic inflators are affected by this recall.** As of August 2002, SOS Inc. had not received any reports of personal injuries or PFDs malfunctioning in the field.

The Coast Guard and SOS Inc. stress that it is important for consumers to stop using the PFDs immediately and return them to SOS Inc. Important information to assist in the identification of potential defective units and what to do when units are identified is available from the following two websites:

www.sospenders.com
www.uscg.mil/hq/g-m/mse4/mse4home.htm

Questions regarding this recall may be addressed to Mr. Daniel McCormick of the USCG at dmccormick@comdt.uscg.mil or 202.267.2713.

M. M. ROSECRANS
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port Jacksonville